

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 247739

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 PA-01 RSC-01 /023 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:SWBUCK:LAB
APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:RWAHERNE
PA - MR. CLAUSSEN

----- 051988

O R 091912Z NOV 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, SA

SUBJECT: MRS. POMEROY AGAIN

REF.: (A) CAIRO 8982; (B) JIDDA 6204 (NOTAL); (C) STATE
235434 (NOTAL)

1. WE ARE SURPRISED MRS. POMEROY BELIEVES SAUDI VISA
ISSUANCE LIKELY, SINCE SHE AND HER GROUP WERE FULLY
APPRISED PRIOR TO THEIR DEPARTURE OF THE SLIM CHANCES FOR
ISSUANCE. BEFORE LEAVING U.S., MRS. POMEROY AND HER GROUP
OF 17 VISITED USUN POL COUNSELOR, WHO, HAVING CONSULTED WITH
ARP, EMPHASIZED TO MRS. POMEROY AND ASSEMBLED LADIES THAT
GROUP VERY UNLIKELY TO RECEIVE SAUDI VISAS.

2. SAUDI CHARGE INFORMED US NOVEMBER 9 THAT HIS EMBASSY
HAD ASKED FOR FOREIGN MINISTRY APPROVAL TO ISSUE VISAS FOR
MRS. POMEROY AND HER GROUP, RECEIVED A CABLE REPLY ASKING
FOR MORE INFO ON GROUP, AND CABLED THIS INFORMATION. TO
DATE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NO REPLY FROM FONMIN. RE
MRS. POMEROY'S CONTENTION PARA 1 REF (A), SAUDI CHARGE DID
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PAGE 02 STATE 247739

NOT SPEAK TO MRS. POMEROY PERSONALLY, BUT ASSUMED THAT

CONSULAR OFFICER (WHO IS UNAVAILABLE), HAD TOLD HER THAT EMBASSY HAD NOT RECEIVED PERMISSION TO ISSUE VISAS; BUT THAT IF IT DID, IT WOULD PASS THIS INFORMATION ON TO SAG

EMBASSY CAIRO OR OTHER SAUDI EMBASSIES ON GROUP'S ITINERARY (WHICH EMBASSY HAS). WHILE THIS HELPFUL, WE SHARE EMBASSY JIDDA'S VIEW THAT IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY SAG WILL AUTHORIZE VISAS FOR THIS GROUP IN NEAR FUTURE.

3. EMBASSY CAIRO MAY WISH TO SUGGEST - AGAIN - TO POMEROY GROUP THAT THEY TRY SAUDI ARABIA AGAIN AT A LATER TIME. THE BASIC POINT, OF COURSE, IS, AS JIDDA'S 6204 MAKES CLEAR, THAT WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHETHER SAG WILL ISSUE VISAS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, AND THERE IS VERY LITTLE WE CAN DO TO AFFECT THEIR DECISION BEYOND FACILITATING THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE GROUP AND ITS PURPOSES - WHICH WE HAVE DONE AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO.

4. NEA/ARP DIRECTOR DICKMAN NOW IN SAUDI ARABIA. HE MAY WISH TO COMMENT FURTHER. MAW

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